

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A dirt cup for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:  
a housing defining a dirt collection chamber, said housing including a first sidewall;  
an inlet in said first sidewall of said housing in fluid communication with said dirt collection chamber;  
an outlet in said first sidewall of said housing in fluid communication with said dirt collection chamber; and  
an attachable and detachable filter holder on said housing external to said dirt collection chamber and downstream from said outlet.
2. (original) The dirt cup of claim 1 further including a prefilter held on said housing across said outlet.
3. (original) The dirt cup of claim 2, further including a filter in said filter holder.
4. (original) The dirt cup of claim 3, wherein said filter includes a support and a pleated filter media.
5. (original) The dirt cup of claim 4, wherein said prefilter is a screen.
6. (currently amended) The dirt cup of claim 4, wherein said housing also includes a top wall, a first sidewall and a bottom wall.

7. (canceled)
8. (currently amended) The dirt cup of ~~claim 7~~ claim 6, wherein said bottom wall is connected by a hinge to a second sidewall.
9. (original) The dirt cup of claim 8, further including a first latch carried on said housing and securing said bottom wall in a closed position.
10. (original) The dirt cup of claim 8 further including a second latch carried on said housing and securing said dirt cup to a vacuum cleaner.
11. (original) The dirt cup of claim 1, further including a filter in said attachable and detachable filter holder.
12. (original) The dirt cup of claim 11, wherein said filter includes a support and a pleated filter media.
13. (original) The dirt cup of claim 12, wherein said prefilter is a screen.
14. (currently amended) The dirt cup of claim 12, wherein said housing also includes a top wall, a first sidewall and a bottom wall.
15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The dirt cup of ~~claim 15~~ claim 14, wherein said bottom wall is connected by a hinge to a second sidewall.
17. (original) The dirt cup of claim 16, further including a first latch carried on said housing and securing said bottom wall in a closed position.
18. (original) The dirt cup of claim 16 further including a second latch carried on said housing and securing said dirt cup to a vacuum cleaner.
19. (original) A vacuum cleaner incorporating the dirt cup of claim 1.